

Rivington and District
Press Extracts
1823 to 1865

Transcribed By David Owen

Bolton Express 20th October 1823,

To be let for a term of years and may be entered upon at Christmas and the 13th May next, all that Farm House and Premises called or known by the name of Higher Knowle, situate in Rivington in the County of Lancaster containing 36 Cheshire acres of Meadow and Pasture Land or thereabouts together with a Common Right of Pasture upon Rivington Moor and now in the possession of Henry Mawdsley as Tenant thereof.

Also all that Farmhouse and Premises called Darbyshires, situate in Rivington as aforesaid containing 10 acres of Meadow and Pasture Land, Cheshire measure, or thereabouts with Common Right of Pasture upon the Moor and now in the possession of Richard Crompton as tenant thereof.

Bolton Chronicle 17th March 1827

To be let and entered upon 12th May next for one year or a term of years, all that Message or Dwelling House called Brown's or Smith House situate in _ Rivington Lane with a garden, orchard, stable, shippon, gig house, granary and 3⁹/₁₀ acres of arable, meadow and pasture land now in the occupation of Christopher Whalley.

The above premises are suitable for the residence of a genteel family. Are near to the Free Grammar School; or will be convenient for a Cotton Manufacturer.

Information may be had by applying to Thomas Anderton, Rivington.

Bolton Chronicle 15th September 1827

Bleach Works and Farm to be let for a term of years, and may be entered upon immediately. All that Farm House and Premises called the Lower Knowle, situate in Rivington in the County of Lancaster, containing 30 Cheshire acres or thereabouts of Meadow and Pasture Land, together with an unlimited common right of pasture upon Rivington Moor, and late in the possession of Mr John Shaw.

Also all those Bleachworks and Premises erected upon the above farm; with the Machinery and Apparatus therein for Bleaching.

The above premises are distant about six miles from the towns of Bolton and Chorley respectively and the Bleach Works are well supplied with wares and coal and are capable of bleaching from 1000 to 1500 pieces per week.

Further information may be had by applying to Mr John Shaw or Mr. Christopher Shaw of Rivington, who will shew the premises, or at the office of Mr John Salt, Solicitor, Bolton.

Bolton Chronicle 25th June 1831

In reading the various reports of the population of 1831 as compared with 1821 we regret to observe a decrease of 51 souls has occurred.

Concerns are then raised regarding the number of bachelors in Rivington.

Bolton Chronicle 14th January 1832

Wanted - An Usher for the Free Grammar School in Rivington. A man well educated in the English and Latin languages. The present salary is £50 per year, with a good house and garden, exclusive of perquisites.

The Examination and Election will take place in School on Thursday 26th January 1832 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. For further particulars apply to Mr. James Ainsworth of Anderton or to any of the Governors. 26th January 1832 at 10 o'clock in the forenoon. For further particulars apply to Mr. James Ainsworth of Anderton or any of the Governors.

Bolton Chronicle 20th October 1832

To be sold by Auction. Valuable Freehold Estate by Mr. Wm. Lomax, at the house of Mr. Yates Bilsborrow, The Black Bull in Horwich in the County of Lancaster on Thursday 8th November 1832 at 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

The Fee Simple and inheritance of and in all that Estate situate in Rivington called Sweetloves, consisting of a good Dwelling House, a Farm House, two cottages, bam, shippon, stable and other outbuildings together with several closes, closures or parcels of Meadow and Pasture land belonging thereto, containing in the whole 21 acres of large Cheshire measure, or thereabouts, and now in the several occupation of John Rigby, Robert Ratcliffe and John Yates as tenants thereof, and also that undivided moiety or half-part of all that whole Seat or Pew situate within and on the South side of the Church or Chapel in Rivington aforesaid apurtenant to that Estate and now occupied by Mr. John Isherwood and Mr. William Pass.

The above Estate adjoins Rivington Hall and is about eight miles distant from Bolton, four from Chorley and half a mile from the Village of Rivington, It abounds with good water and is supposed to contain coal.

The tenants of the Premises will shew the same and further particulars may be had on application to Mr. John Townend of Hulme near Haslingden, Mr. Charles Woods, or at the office of Mr. R.A. Hibbert of Bolton.

Bolton Chronicle 15th March 1834

To be sold by Private Contract a Farm House, Shippon, Barn and respectable Cottage-house together with seven acres or thereabouts Cheshire Measure of Valuable Pasture and Meadow Land situate at Lower Darbysheires in Rivington.

Application to be made to Edward Rothwell of Rivington who will shew the Premises and give all necessary information.

Bolton Chronicle 6th December 1834

On Monday night a diabolical attempt was made to destroy the ancient Church at Rivington by fire. A man who lives contiguous to the Church had been feeding his horse, and on his return from the stable, he observed an unusual light in the Church. On looking through one of the windows he saw a pile of cushions, prayer books etc. on fire in the aisle. An alarm being given, assistance was quickly procured, and the fire extinguished but not before damage to the amount of £30 had been done.

On examination it appeared the incendiary had broken up the Constables staves, and placing the cushions and books on them, set fire to the mass with Lucifer matches.

Bolton Chronicle 16th December 1834

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Bolton Chronicle March 21st 1835

Lancaster Assizes. John Simm 35, charged with willfully setting fire to a Church at Rivington on the night of December 1st last.

The prisoner had no Counsel, He was a person of about middle size with a very sallow complexion and saturnine cast of features, but though supposed to be insane exhibited no symptoms of insanity when placed in the dock, beyond a little wildness of expression in the eyes.

Dr. Brown stated the case for the prosecution and called a number of witnesses from whose testimony it appeared that about half past eleven on the night above mentioned some persons passing by the Parish Church of Rivington observed a great light inside. On going to the window they saw that the place was on fire and having procured the keys and got in, they found that a number of forms, prayer books and other articles had been piled up in the Singers Pew and set on fire. Two of the forms were much burnt and the flames had caught the Body of the pew before they could be extinguished. It was afterwards found that the incendiary had affected an entrance by breaking an iron stanchion which secured the vestry window with a large stone of about fifty pounds weight, which he left behind him in the vestry.

The prisoner was not seen or found in the Church but he came up to the persons in the Churchyard before they had got the keys and said, "Look what a fine blaze it makes." He was taken into custody next morning and acknowledged both then and

subsequently, without any promise being made or threat needed, that it was he that had broken into the Church, piled the forms and the books together and set them on fire.

On his apprehension, a box of Lucifer matches, a bit of candle wrapped up in a Hymn book and a printed account of the burning of the two Houses of Parliament was found upon him.

This was the prosecution's case and no evidence being offered by the Prisoner he was acquitted on the grounds of insanity and ordered to be detained for life or until he had regained his sanity.

Bolton Chronicle and also Bolton Free Press 8th April 1837

House to let in Rivington late in the occupation of Mr. Fisher comprising Dining, Drawing and Breakfast rooms, very large commodious kitchen, Butler's Pantry Storeroom, Scullery, seven Bedrooms and other suitable offices, also Laundry, Coach House, three-stalled Stable and Shippon and a moderately sized garden well arranged with fruit trees and other trees.

Rev. James Jackson will shew.

Bolton Free Press 11th March 1837

The inhabitants of Rivington and neighbourhood have been in a state of anxiety for a number of days in consequence of the sudden disappearance of Thomas Anderton, the son of a farmer of the same name who farms his own land.

The young man was labouring under an aberration of the mind from the effects of a brain fever.

On the 9th February he escaped from home and no tidings might be learned as to where he had gone. No-one had seen him and numerous and vain were their conjectures. The family were in the deepest distress and every brook, ditch and pond in the neighbourhood were searched without success.

Mr. Anderton also farms some land at a short distance from his house, but lets the dwelling which is upon it, which is presently occupied by a man with the name of Parr, who has lately buried one of his family. -

For some days in the earlier part of last week, strange noises had been heard in Parr's house, and the conjecture of the inmates were that the house was haunted by the old woman who had been buried on the Wednesday 1st March.

Mrs. Parr went to Mr. Anderton and told him there was something in the Hay loft adjoining the house, which frightened them very much, upon which Mr. Anderton went and ascended the loft and to his astonishment found his son in one corner, who had been absent almost twenty days.

Assistance having been procured, the unfortunate young man was conveyed home and presented a truly pitiable appearance, being reduced to a perfect skeleton in human form, and his skin appeared to be in an almost putrid state, being marked with livid spots of an almost purple hue.

When taken home he told his father that when he escaped from the house he hid himself in a bush in the neighbourhood where he remained all day and night and the following day, He then got into the hay-loft where he remained till found. He had not eaten or drunk anything from the time of leaving home except a little hay which appeared to be nibbled where he lay as if the rats had been among it.

A surgeon was got to his assistance but nature had become too much exhausted and he died on Wednesday last. He was about 25 years of age.

The Inquest found that he died of natural disease. It was last November that he had the brain fever.

Bolton Free Press

Obituary entry Thomas Anderton 8th March aged 28.

Bolton Free Press 13th January 1838

Dissolution of the partnership between William Heap and John Gregson, Bleachers of Rivington. The business will be carried on by Mr. Gregson.

Bolton Free Press 10th November 1838

First report of the murder on Horwich Moor of the Scotsman George Henderson the previous day.

Bolton Free Press 11th December 1841

To be let Lower Knowle, 27 Cheshire acres in the possession of James Berry as tenant. Also stone quarry. Apply John Shaw or Christopher Shaw of Rivington, Charles Shaw, The King's Arms Chorley or Richard Mason, Horwich.

Bolton Free Press 27th March 1843

A report of a burglary at Rivington Church in which the Church chest was emptied and a box that was chained to the chest had been wrenched away and taken out of the Church. The box was found in a field a considerable distance away where the end was forced out and the box was ransacked.

The Charter of Foundation of the School was taken, part of the Seal has been found. A reward of £5 is offered.

Bolton Free Press 28th June 1844

For sale, the Freehold Estate called The Knowle containing 17 acres 3 roods and 29 poles (Cheshire) a good farmhouse and buildings in the occupation of John Mayoh as tenant.

Bolton Free Press 27th December 1845

To be let Lower Knowle 28 acres. House empty next May.

Bolton Free Press 5th December 1846

Death of Lettice Yates on 3rd December. For 31 years she was housekeeper to Robert Andrews at the Hall.

Bolton Chronicle 14th November 1846

Notice of an application to Parliament by Liverpool Corporation to dam Rake Brook and the river Roddlesworth to provide a water supply for Liverpool.

Bolton Chronicle 5th June 1847

An estimate of the cost of investigation into the proposed Water Scheme at Rivington would be £30,000.

Bolton Chronicle 17th April 1847

To be sold by Public Auction at the Crown Inn, Horwich, the following Lots of Timber now growing at Lower Knowle Farm, Rivington, (above Horwich Racecourse) and numbered 1 to 308.

About 191 Oaks
49 Birch
27 Sycamores
15 Ash
10 Mountain Ash
8 Alders
8 Poplars
and 82 Cyphers (marked 0)

Apply John or Christopher Shaw, Richard Mason or John Salt.

Bolton Chronicle 6th November 1847

Two reservoirs planned, to be called Anglezarke Reservoir and the Rivington Pike Reservoir.

Bolton Chronicle 21st June 1848

To be sold by Auction, two equal undivided sixth parts or shares of and in all that Valuable Freehold Estate in Rivington in the County of Lancaster known by the name of Crosses, consisting of an excellent Farmhouse with commodious Barn, Stable

Shippon, Piggeries etc with almost 21 acres of rich Arable, Meadow and Pasture Land of the measure of 8 yards to the Perch, now in the occupation of William Boardman as tenant.

The Estate is well stocked with excellent timber consisting of Oak, Ash, Birch, Sycamore and Alder. There is an unfailing supply of Pure Water in the Farm Yard.

Bolton Chronicle 24th June 1848

After a heated discussion it was decided by Liverpool Council with a vote of 24 to 20 not to proceed with the Rivington Pike Scheme, but to order a survey of the probable cost.

Bolton Chronicle 5th August 1848

Another vote taken at Liverpool on the resolution to suspend for twelve months all proceedings on the Rivington Pike Scheme.

It was defeated by 30 votes to 15,

Bolton Chronicle 13th January 1849

A vote at Liverpool on the continuance of the Rivington Pike Scheme. Mr. Harbord warned that if they introduced the Scheme, dysentery, ague and other ailments would prevail amongst the rich and poor of the Town every Autumn.

It was voted 21 to 13 to suspend all operations.

Bolton Chronicle 27th January 1849

A Petition by the ratepayers of Liverpool for a Public Meeting to discuss the Rivington Pike Scheme.

Bolton Chronicle 17th February 1849

It was voted to stop the Rivington Pike Scheme.

Bolton Chronicle 12th May 1849

A report by the Engineers recommended sinking more wells in Liverpool.

Bolton Chronicle 19th May 1849

The council voted to abandon the Rivington Pike scheme, sacrificing £50,000 already spent.

Bolton Chronicle 17th November 1849

Notice was published of the abandonment of the Rivington Pike scheme.

Bolton Chronicle 30th March 1850

A letter from a Liverpool tradesman supporting the Rivington Pike Scheme after a visit to Bolton and observing the fire-fighting arrangements.

Bolton Chronicle 6th April 1850

Publication of Mr. Robert Stephenson's report which favoured the Rivington Pike Scheme and dismissed the sinking of extra wells in Liverpool.

Bolton Chronicle 13th April 1850

It was voted by the Committee to re-adopt the Rivington Pike Scheme by 37 votes to 12.

Bolton Chronicle 4th May 1850

The Rivington Pike Scheme was sanctioned. `

Bolton Chronicle 7th June 1851

Expenditure on the Rivington Scheme so far:

1848 £ 27,454-12s- 4d

1849 £ 22,876- 8s-11d

1850 £104,831-14s- 3d

1851 £ 30,335- 3s- 2d

Bolton Chronicle 13th September 1851

Tenders for work accepted.

Bolton Chronicle 24th July 1852

To be sold by Auction at the house of Mr. Bennet Lowe, known by the sign of the Black Boy in Rivington on Tuesday 10th August at Four o'clock in the afternoon for Six precisely, subject to such conditions as shall then be produced (unless previously disposed of by private contract, of which due notice will be given).

The Fee Simple and inheritance of and in that Messuage, Farm and Tenement situate in Rivington as aforesaid called Darbyshires or Higher Darbyshires with the fields belonging thereto called respectively the Barn Meadow, Lower Bam Meadow, Higher Close and Lower Close and containing by estimate 4 acres of land Cheshire Measure or thereabouts and now occupied by William Heaton as tenant thereof.

Bolton Chronicle 15th January 1853

Discussion on the progress of the Rivington Scheme.

Bolton Chronicle 29th January 1853

Description of the Contracts of the Scheme.

Contract no. 3 Roddlesworth, Mr Isherwood £22,000.

Contract no. 4 The Anglezarke or Knowsley Messrs. Miller and Lawton ` £22,080.

Contract no. 5 Extends from Horwich to Knowsley about two miles and includes the Main Works, Messrs. Scott and Knowell £ 65,000.

Horwich pool will have about 300 acres, upwards of a mile in length and in some places half a mile across and is partly crossed by the Black Boy bank.

A Goit 4 ½ miles long will join the Knowsley pool and the Roddlesworth.

Bolton Chronicle 28th May 1853

Report of a compensation claim by Mrs. Mary Ann Bibby in respect of her farm at Rivington and Heath Charnock. The Corporation had acquired all the land needed except for this and had been unable to come to terms.

Mrs. Bibby requested £200 and the Corporation had offered £45,

The Farm was 22 ½ statute acres and the rent was £30 . It had been held by Mrs. Bibby and her husband for about 11 years.

Postponed until June 11th pending a settlement.

Bolton Chronicle 4th June 1853

An injunction taken out against contractors Miller and Scott to stop them taking more timber than they were entitled to - granted.

Also a protest from Birkacre Bleach Works for pollution of the river Yarrow by the works at Rivington.

Bolton Chronicle 22nd April 1854

Sale of furniture at Spring Cottage, late the residence of the Rev. C. B. Hubbard deceased.

Bolton Chronicle 6th January 1855

Discussion on the Rivington Scheme. About £430,000 spent so far and £29,000 still required.

Bolton Chronicle 26th January 1856

Completion Certificate due to be signed, the reservoirs expected to be full in a week or two.

Bolton Chronicle 16th February 1856

Reservoirs filling rapidly - Anglezarke full.

Bolton Chronicle 13th September 1856

Report on the election of the Rev. T. Sutcliffe at Rivington Church by 75 votes to 45. There was controversy about the people of Belmont voting. (See history of the Church)

Bolton Chronicle 11th October 1856

Notice of sale of equipment used on the Rivington Water Scheme includes rails, sleepers, engines and 600 wheelbarrows.

Bolton Chronicle 25th October 1856

A description of the completed Water Works.

Bolton Chronicle 29th November 1856

A copy of the School Charter of 1566 was quoted in the argument about Belmont people voting in the recent election of the Rev.T. Sutcliffe.

Bolton Chronicle 10th July 1858

John Moore, a blind fiddler was charged with causing a disturbance in Rivington Village on the morning of 25th of June.

C.J. Darbishire Esq. one of the Magistrates said that at 4.0 am. on that day he was awoken by a great disturbance and someone kicking at the door. He found nine men at the back door, one of whom had his face blacked was sitting on a form in the midst of them. The defendant had a squealing fiddle and was fiddling as hard as he could.

He told them to desist and go away, but they asked for some money for a benefit and then they would go. He eventually forced them off the premises. The defendant was drunk and he believed all the others were as well.

It was an old custom on the Eve of Club Day that the first man who got drunk was dignified with the title "Mayor of Rivington". His worship was then plied with brandy and other spirits until he lost his senses. His face was blacked and he was carried on a shutter through the Village, money being demanded at different farms and other places to support the dignity and hospitality of the office, and eventually His Worship was tumbled into the Mill Dam.

A man had nearly died two or three years ago so that part of the procedure had been abandoned,

Mr. Darbshire said it was a disgraceful custom and he was determined to suppress it.

In reply the fiddler said, "If I had known I was going to Mr. Darbshires I should not have gone with them.

He was bound over to keep the peace.

Bolton Chronicle 19th February 1859

To be let, The Blackamoor's Head in Rivington with Meadow and ..
Pasture land and garden. Possession can be given in May.
Contact J. Howarth, New Hall.

Bolton Chronicle 9th April 1859

To let, Fisher House, now in the occupation of Mr. Henry Oakes
comprising three entertaining rooms, kitchen, pantries, scullery and seven
bedrooms. Coach house, counting house or office with room over, three
stalled stable, shippin and excellent garden.

Possession 12th May.

Bolton Chronicle 5th November 1859

Investigation into Local Charities.

Broadhurst Charity

Bennett Anderton read the will of John Broadhurst dated 22nd June 1681
by which he bequeathed an amount of £50, one half to the poor of
Rivington and one half to the use of Rivington Church, and further gave the
interest of £5 for a sound, orthodox minister at Rivington and the interest on
a further £5 to the poor.

It appeared that the sum of £30, one moiety of this charity, in the trust of
Thomas Anderton and Mr. Bennett Anderton of Rivington has been secured
in Government 3 per cent Consols in the name of and in the account of the
Trustees of the Charities and that the interest of this sum is distributed
yearly on November 5th by the Rivington Trustees to the industrious poor.

The other Moiety of 230 appears to have been laid out nearly a century
ago towards the erection of the Parsonage House together with a sum of
money left by will for the keeping in repair of the Church roof.

An Inquiry had determined that it was an old debt incurred 80 years ago
and was considered as lost.

Grammar School Charity

The present amount is about £328.

Cranley's Charity

This is a Rent Charge of 6s 8d which has not been paid since 1843. Mr. Howard, the present tenant recognised the claim and it would be paid in full. It was usually added to the Shaw Charity.

Bolton Chronicle 10th December 1859

A man was killed at the Sportsman's Arms in Rivington when he slipped whilst carrying a barrel down the cellar steps.

Bolton Chronicle 20th October 1860

Sale of farming stock, equipment and furniture at Latham's Farm, Dean Head Lane, Rivington by William Barlow.

Bolton Chronicle 28th September 1861

Re-opening of Rivington Church after extensive alterations. New pews have been installed instead of benches and squire pews. A central aisle has been formed with Minton tiles and a new aisle at right angles between the South Porch door and the Vestry room.

The walls have been panelled to a height of five feet. The screen has been restored and the Altar has been raised and placed on a glazed tile base and protected by carved railings.

A pretty little organ has been placed on the left of the West door, which is surmounted by the Royal Arms and a porch constructed, jutting inwards.

Bolton Chronicle 16th March 1861.

For sale at the farmhouse of Mr. Thomas Rigby, known as The Comp, at the bottom of Winter Hill in Rivington, all the farming stock and equipment and all the household furniture.

Bolton Chronicle 25th May 1861

To be let with immediate possession Chapel House, Rivington, three Parlours, five bedrooms and a capital kitchen and office and cellar, together with a convenient stable and pleasant garden attached. Apply to John Howarth, New Hall.

Bolton Chronicle 19th April 1862

For sale, five undivided twelfth shares in the Freehold Estate called Crosses in Rivington, consisting of a Farmhouse, Barn, Stables, Shippons and other outbuildings and 33 acres 3 roods and 0 poles of arable Pasture, Meadow and Wood land in the occupation of Mr. David Towler as yearly tenant thereof Excellent sites for Villas and other residences.

To be let by Ticket on July 12th and entered upon immediately, all that Farm called Latham's consisting of 12 acres with House, Barn, Stable, Shippon and other outbuildings together with a Pew in the Church.

Late in the possession of William Guest.

Bolton Chronicle 10th May 1862

On Wednesday evening week (30th April) at the Swan Hotel, Bolton, a Freehold Estate in Rivington called Sweetloves, late in the occupation of Mr. Peter Heywood, deceased, was offered for sale by auction. Some of the few who were present were Messrs. John Andrews and William Ryder of Rivington, Alderman Heywood and Mr. Thomas Gregson of Bolton and Mr. George Howarth formerly of Bolton and now of Southport.

Consisting of a Farmhouse, with Barn, Stable and Shippons and two cottages, also a family dwelling house nearly finished with several closes or parcels of land containing 40 acres 0 roods and 27 poles. A valuable Quarry of Stone and Flags and some fine timber on the Estate.

The first bid was £2000 and rose to £3,200 afterwards by Mr. Andrews. . After a pause the reserve price of £3,300 was named. As there was no other bid it was declared a No Sale.

Bolton Chronicle 4th July 1863

For Sale by Private Treaty, Five Twelfths of Crosses at Rivington in the occupation of Mr. David Towler, consisting of 15 Cheshire acres with Farmhouse and buildings.

The owner has right of Common Pasture on Rivington Moor and also a right - of sporting and shooting on the Moor and a right of fishing in the Reservoirs.

Apply Bennett Anderton of Rivington or Richard Anderton of Heath Charnock.

Bolton Chronicle 1st October 1864

On Wednesday 5th October a sale will take place of all the Farming Stock and effects of Crosses Farm, Rivington in the occupation of Mr. David Towler.

Chorley Standard 22nd October 1864

Mr. Anderton's report on James Yate's Well.

"The petrifying spring, James Yate's Well was formerly in great repute. Before railways were invented to carry people to Buxton and other places, the lame, the halt and blind for scores of miles flocked to Anglezarke to drink and bathe in it's, I believe justly celebrated waters.

I sent a bottle to a medical friend of mine, studying at the Royal College of Surgeons, Dublin in 1836, when it was analysed by the celebrated Dr. Apjohn, Professor of Chemistry at that place.

He gave the following result: ·

"Bi-carbonate of Lime and Bi-carbonate of Iron equal parts, water and a great excess of carbonic acid. The water has a brackish taste, the temperature does not vary much from the water in the adjoining brook. I have sent you a piece of the moss petrified, with the upper part unpetrified, also a small amount of the solid sediment of the heap thrown up by the spring, which contains a great proportion of lime." Mr. Anderton adds, "I forgot to mention that there is a curiously-shaped bank in Rivington, called the "Street Ark", supposed by some to be artificial.

If so, advantage was taken of the locality, for the adjoining land is of a very curious shape.

It is a long gullet of one hundred and twenty paces, and would conceal and easily protect a large force against assailants.

I cannot venture an opinion about it, and I am not aware that anything is positively known respecting it. I have heard it called "Oliver Cromwell's Entrenchment", but it would have been no use to him. It may have been used in the early British, Saxon or Danish wars, as it resembles Caer Caradoc, except in shape, that one is nearly circular. This one at Rivington is nearly in a straight line.

Scouts placed on the adjacent heights would have an excellent view of the enemy for miles."

On this we offer no opinion at present, as we have not yet seen the mound.

Chorley Standard 15th October 1864

A description by Mr. Anderton of a visit to Round Loaf and the Pikestones in Anglezarke.

Chorley Standard 29th October 1864

A report of the death of Mr. Richard Anderton of Heath Charnock at Adlington Station. He was standing in his cart when his horse was frightened by a train and turned the cart over. He was thrown out and the shaft of the cart fractured his skull. He was interred at Rivington Chapel. (Note: Richard was the person who contributed the two previous articles to the newspaper, and lived at Shaw Place where he moved to after leaving New Hall Farm in Rivington.

His initials, and the date 1835 may be seen on the keystone of New Hall Barn. He was brother to Bermett Anderton and the Thomas Anderton who starved himself to death in 1837).

Chorley Standard 22nd July 1865

A shortage of water reported following a drought of 1864, there being below average rainfall for 18 months.

Chorley Standard 12th August 1865

Mr. Shaw of Rivington commenced shearing his corn on 24th July being much earlier than usual in this area.

Chorley Standard 19th August 1865

Last week a remarkable fight took place between the bees occupying two hives belonging to Mr. Walls of Rivington. The bees engaged in an angry strife. Afterwards the victors retired to their own hive having killed the whole of their opponents.

Chorley Standard 19th August 1865

A report on the Reservoirs — 9 leaks was reported in the pipeline, 6 had been repaired and 3 were in hand. Additional reserves of water were required.

Chorley Standard 23rd September 1865

Report of an assault on John Jolly at Rivington Water Works by James Fazackerly, Robert James Needham and Moses Riley. The case was settled by payment of expenses.

Chorley Standard 30th September 1865

Report on the Reservoirs — average rainfall in the last fortnight was only 0.046 inches. Reservoir levels still dropping.

Chorley Standard 7th October 1865

Married 3rd October Charles James Stonor of Anderton Hall and Maud Mary Welman of Norton Manor, Somerset.

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Chorley Standard 14th October 1865

Water shortage continues, average rainfall only 0.13 inches. It is recommended that Chorley Baths be closed.

Chorley Standard 21st October 1865

Death on 13th October of Robert Charnock due to a fall of stone in a quarry belonging to Thomas Pilkington. The Inquest took place at the Black Boy. He was 27.

A correspondent from Rivington writes that he took almost 50 lbs. of honey from one stock and 11 lbs. in a bell glass, a total of 60 lbs. from two hives.

Chorley Standard 28th October 1865

Water levels are rising due to rainfall.

Reported that St. Josephs Church, Anderton was built in 1863-4.

Chorley Standard 11th November 1865

A report on Rivington Church.

The windows are plain 3-light oblongs. The vestry is in the middle of the North side. The East Window is 5 narrow round-headed lights. Walls are wainscoted to the base of the windows, with beautiful Gothic tracery in the panels. This part is new and was put in when the Church was re-pewed in 1862. The reading desk is new with canopy at each end and open work in front. The inscription in the front of the Prayer Book and Bible reads, "Presented to the Chapelry of Rivington in memory of the late Joseph and Mary Ainsworth by their daughters Sarah Emily, Sophia Louise, Gertrude, Mary Agnes, Margaret Laura, and Edith Amy."

Above the porch at the westem end are the Royal Arms in gilt and at one side of it is a neat little organ.

The seats are new and comfortable.

Above the entrance to the vestry is a frame with a picture of Bishop Pilkington's father, mother and family. (There follows a detailed description of the picture).

Chorley Standard 18th November 1865

A continuation of the report on Rivington Church.

It describes the two Shaw memorial tablets and then continues ~

"Above the Pulpit is a list of benefactions: Mr. John Shaw gave in 1627 £6 12s 2p annual.

Mr. George Shaw gave prior to 1650 £290 0s 0p

Mr. George Shaw of Blackburn gave in 1650 £220 0s 0d

Which sums were laid out in the purchase of lands as under mentioned.

Swinton Moor Estate near Manchester rent £250 0s 0d

Sutton House Estate, Heath Chamock and Adlington, Thomas France's part

£18 0s 0d

Sutton House Estate Mary Crostin's part £14 0s 0d

Mary Crostin's Ground Rent £1 0s 0d

William Morris's Ground Rent £2 2s 0d

A close on Adlington Common £3 0s 0d

Billinge Carr Estate in Witton, Blackburn £24 0s 0d

Joseph Fielding Esq. For part of Billinge Hill in Blackburn £2 0s 0d

Cottages in Heath Charnock- tent £13 13s 0d

Mrs. Chamley gave solely to the poor of Rivington, annually, a rent charge on Mr. Heatley's Estate £0 6s 8d

A total of £328 5s 0d

Trustees C. J. Darbyshire Esq., Mr. John Howarth, Rivington

Mr. John Halliwell, Mr. William Berry, Anglezarke

Mr. John Dickinson, Mr. Henry Dickinson, Anderton

Mr. Henry Miller, Mr. Andrew Smith, Heath Charnock.

Chorley Standard 25th November 1865

Continuing the report on Rivington Church.

It describes three tablets on the South wall and the incumbent's board. It then wrongly states that the School was founded in 1666. (It should be 1566)

It then describes the School as Elizabethan in style with four plain 3—light windows on each side with a door in the North side and a staircase in the South side.

There are three masters, Mr. Tebay, Mr. Wilding and Mr. Holdsworth, Writing Master. The homes for the Usher and Writing Master were built in 1789 out of surplus funds,

[Note; A letter from a correspondent regarding the article on Rivington Church mentions John Shaw who is buried near his plaque, and continues,]"and some time afterwards the Roman memorial cross which stood on his land was removed to the spot, in all probability by his own wish. What has happened to this beautiful and ancient memorial?"

(A letter in reply to the above)

"With regard to the stone memorial cross which was found on the spot covered with earth, and which of course must be merged into the freehold of the Church and become Church property, after the discovery of this it was placed on, and in the centre of the chancel screen, giving the interior a solemn and graphic effect.

It was taken down ten or twelve years ago and either given, sold or battered away by the last named incumbent. Your correspondent was under no mistake about this ancient monument for, I am informed, it is still preserved at Wallsuches or Ridgmont in the township of Horwich.

The corona or crown is also preserved, being affixed above the entrance to the Roman Catholic Chapel at Euxton. These two specimens of Roman Art having fallen into

careful hands will, I have no doubt be restored upon candid application. The pedestal upon which the cross probably stood has remained until very recently, when one of the farm tenants on the property roused the stone from it's bed and broke it in pieces, whether from convenience, profit or prejudice I have not been able to ascertain. '

Signed Alpha "